

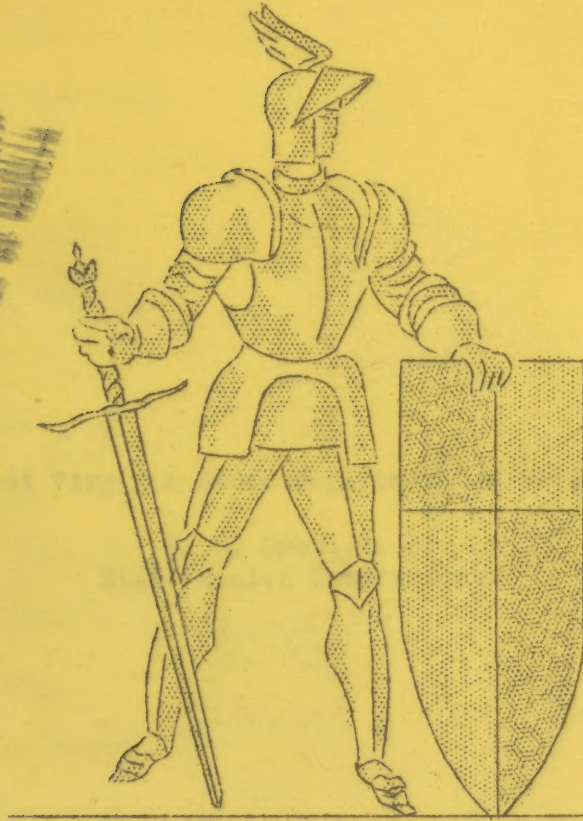
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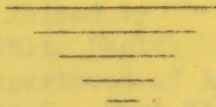
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## A RESUME OF SERVICES

West Virginia State Department of Health

N. H. Dyer, M. D.  
State Health Commissioner

WEST VIRGINIA. Edited by  
Bureau of Public Health Education  
State Department of Health  
Chalreston 5, West Virginia

FEBRUARY - 1949



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## DIVISION OF BARBERS AND BEAUTICIANS

The function of the Division of Barbers and Beauticians is to administer the law governing the practice of barbering and beauty culture under the direction of the State Health Commissioner. In fulfilling its function, the division performs the following activities:

Inspection. All barber and beauty shops are inspected periodically with special regard for sanitation and cleanliness as well as for compliance with the rules and regulations of the State Committee of Barbers and Beauticians. All schools of barbering and beauty culture are regularly checked for the same purpose, as well as for compliance with the regulations governing the teaching of barbering and beauty culture.

Examination and Registration. The division makes preparation for, and assists the State Committee of Barbers and Beauticians in conducting examinations for the registration of barbers and beauticians. Certificates of registration, and renewal, are issued annually to those qualified to practice barbering and beauty culture.

Records. All records relating to registration are maintained by the division as well as other records necessary for the performance of its duty. Also, assistance is given the Central Cashier's Office in recording and depositing daily receipts.

## DIVISION OF CANCER CONTROL

With ever increasing death rates due to cancer, this disease looms larger and larger as a distinct public health problem. The Public Health Laws of West Virginia provide for a program of financial aid, tissue diagnostic service, clinics, and education. The Division of Cancer Control has the following functions:

Care of Needy Cancer Patients. The division has limited funds for assisting needy cancer patients to finance cancer treatment. To receive help, the patients must have symptoms which leads the examining physician to suspect cancer and a financial need must exist. Referrals are made by local health departments, the Department of Public Assistance, the American Red Cross, or Cancer Information Centers. Patients accepted for treatment are directed to the nearest tumor clinic or treatment center for one or more of the accepted methods of treatment, namely, surgery, X-ray or radium, and are extended follow-up care as long as they can benefit from active treatment.

Tissue Diagnostic Service. This service is extended to needy cancer patients included in the treatment phase of the program. The work is done by private laboratories which employ qualified pathologists.

Tumor Clinics. Law provides for the establishment of tumor clinics under the direction of the State Department of Health. Twelve private tumor clinics, utilizing local general hospital facilities, are meeting the present need for such facilities, making it unnecessary for this division to put emphasis on this part of the program.

Education. An educational program is carried on with the keynote being early and accurate diagnosis and prompt and adequate treatment. This program is carried on through the use of literature and motion pictures are available upon request.



## DIVISION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

The control of communicable disease is basically a community function, carried on for the benefit of everyone in the community. To give assistance to this program, the Division of Communicable Disease Control performs the following services:

Records. Weekly morbidity reports are combined into a tabulated report, this is maintained as a permanent record. Permanent records are kept on each county; individual cards are maintained for each county, indicating the number of cases of all diseases reported each month of the year. Permanent records are also kept for each reportable disease, indicating the number of cases reported each month by county.

Temporary records include the periodic morbidity reports of other state departments of health. Reports from the State Hygienic Laboratory on water samples are maintained as well as positive typhoid fever and paratyphoid fever reports. These temporary records are maintained on file for one year and then discarded.

Reports. Weekly morbidity reports, based on reports from the counties, are tabulated and sent to the local health departments, other state departments of health, interested physicians and others. Weekly teletype messages are sent to the Surgeon General regarding cases of diseases specified by the U. S. Public Health Service. Also, monthly reports are sent to the Surgeon General, giving the total number of cases of the reportable diseases. The annual morbidity report is tabulated and sent to all agencies and individuals receiving the weekly morbidity reports.

Epidemiology. Outbreaks of communicable diseases needing special epidemiological investigation may obtain assistance from the U. S. Public Health Service through this division.



## DIVISION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

The health of mother and child is intimately related and cannot be treated separately. The purpose of the maternal and child health program is to minimize the risks of childbirth, and to give every baby born the best possible chance for survival and normal development. The Division of Maternal and Child Health, playing an important role in the total public health program, provides the following services:

Consultant Services. The staff of the division is available on a consultant basis to local health departments on all matters pertaining to prenatal and well-child conferences, school health, prematurity, immunization, and other aspects of maternal or child health.

The Nutrition Service of the division also functions on a consultant basis. This service is available to local health departments, schools, institutions, and other agencies and organizations.

Educational Services. A variety of pamphlets and booklets on the various aspects of maternal and child health are available and are distributed throughout the state. With the cooperation of the Bureau of Public Health Education, educational motion pictures are available for use by groups, organizations or agencies requesting them. The staff is available for lectures to lay groups. A Motherhood Correspondence Course, consisting of a series of letters containing information for mothers-to-be, is mailed to them upon request by their physicians or public health nurses.

Program for Prematures. This division, along with cooperating agencies, supports a premature center in South Charleston. This center, equipped with modern incubators and oxygen equipment and staffed by specially trained personnel, can care for eleven premature infants at one time. This program is a demonstration project and has been designed to serve Kanawha County only.

Portable incubators are strategically located throughout the state and available for use by physicians and hospitals. These incubators can be heated by electricity, warm bricks or sand.

Midwife Registry. This division is the agency through which the State Department of Health licenses midwives. An active file of those practicing midwifery is maintained and licenses are revoked when cases of poor or illegal practice is discovered.

Other Services. A rheumatic fever project to be conducted in Fairmont is near the end of its planning stage and will soon begin to function. It will be a demonstration, indicating the need for accurate and early diagnosis as well as adequate medical care.

With limitations, the Division of Maternal and Child Health provides equipment and supplies for maternal and child health programs conducted by local health departments.



## DIVISION OF SANITARY ENGINEERING

One of the most important foundation stones of a public health program is the sanitary control of the environment. Formerly, sanitary inspections made up almost the entire public health program. Even today, with new activities and programs coming to the fore, sanitation continues to be a basic public health activity. In this program, the Division of Sanitary Engineering has the following functions:

### Water Supplies.

Inspections of the operation of public water supply systems are made and examinations are given water plant operators prior to licensing. Plans for new water plants and supplies are reviewed and approved with periodic inspections of new construction. Inspections are made of water bottling plants before granting permits. Also, inspections are made of watering points for interstate carriers and reports sent to the U. S. Public Health Service. Roadside water supplies, in areas where there are no local health departments, are inspected for the State Road Commission. The use of safe drinking water signs at city limits is approved by this division. Mineral analyses of waters are made on request and bacteriological analyses made by the State Hygienic Laboratory are interpreted and mailed by this division.

Consultation services are available to water plant operators for the provision of safe water and to engineers designing water plants. These services are also available to local health departments.

Educational activities include occasional short courses on the operation of water purification plants, annual waterworks conferences, the preparation and distribution of printed material, talks to city councils, civic groups and technical organizations, and a quarterly newsletter to water plant operators.

### Sewerage and Sewage Treatment.

Inspections of sewage treatment plants are made as well as inspections of sewage plant construction. Plans for new plants are reviewed and approved. The sewer needs of new subdivisions are investigated. Stream pollution investigations are made when a safe water supply is endangered.

Consultation services are available to local health departments, municipalities and industrial plants. The division also maintains close cooperation with the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River, the Ohio River Water Sanitation Commission, the State Water Commission, the State Road Commission, the W. Va. Sewage and Industrial Association, and neighboring states.

Educational activities include an annual meeting for sewage plant operators, the preparation and distribution of bulletins, a quarterly newsletter, and meetings with city councils, civic organizations and technical organizations.

Swimming Pools. Periodic inspections of swimming pools are made and plans for the construction of new pools are reviewed and approved. Short courses on pool operation are conducted and a consultation service is maintained to help operators, engineers and pool owners.

Milk Sanitation. The division serves local health departments on a consultant and supervisory basis. It also maintains contact with all pasteurization plants, making official inspections, making ratings for compliance with the U. S. Public Health Service Code, reviewing and approving plans for new and remodeled pasteurization plants. Short courses are held yearly for field representatives of dairies in the state. The division also furthers the milk sanitation program through its cooperation with the neighboring states, the Department of Agriculture, the Milk Advisory Board, and the Milk Production Program Board.

Food Handling. Throughout the year, food schools are conducted in areas having inspections; this program is gradually being transferred to local health departments where local personnel can or will handle it. The equipment and training aids are furnished by this division. Liaison is maintained with the State Restaurant Association, the Beer Commissioner, the Education Department and the Training Center in Morgantown.

General Sanitation. The garbage disposal program of the division consists of approving incinerator and landfill plans, municipal garbage surveys on request, and assistance to local health departments.



Other activities are concerned with housing, camp sanitation, roadside sanitation, insect and rodent control, hospital sanitation, flood control, plumbing regulations, a cooperative inspection program of private water and sewage systems with the F. H. A., and investigations of disease outbreaks in cooperation with Division of Communicable Disease Control.

## DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS

The registration of vital records is necessary for sound public health practice, for such practice is governed by the information obtained from the analysis of such information. The Division of Vital Statistics performs the following functions:

Public Health Law Requirements. Original certificates of births, deaths, and stillbirths and copies of marriage records from county courts are sent to the division where they are filed and indexed. Copies of all certificates are sent to the National Office of Vital Statistics, transcripts of non-resident births and deaths are sent to states of residence, and accurate copies of all birth and death certificates are sent to the respective county courts. Notifications of birth records are issued to the mothers of all children whose births are recorded during the current year. Upon request, certified copies of birth and death certificates are prepared.

Necessary forms for collecting and recording vital statistics are prepared. Periodically, reports and analyses of vital statistics are prepared and published.

This division appoints and supervises the county registrars and enforces the registration laws. It also certifies the number of records filed each year for payment to the local registrars.

Statistical and Tabulation Services. Services rendered the Bureau of Venereal Disease Control: Monthly Control Activity Report, Monthly Epidemiologic Report; Monthly Activity Report, semi-annual analysis of prenatal blood tests, semi-annual summaries of the above, special semi-annual reports for the U. S. Public Health Service, and other miscellaneous reports.

Services rendered the Bureau of Tuberculosis Control: semi-annual tuberculosis morbidity analysis, X-ray survey listings and statistical tabulation by survey, clinic report analyses, periodic analyses of tuberculin tests, and monthly listing of tuberculosis deaths.

Services rendered the Division of Cancer Control: cancer case studies, and cancer mortality studies.

Services rendered the Division of Maternal and Child Health: EMIC statistical summaries, annual infant death studies, annual maternal death studies, and special studies on premature births.



VITAL STATISTICS - Page 2

Other services include: Laboratory Evaluation Studies and analyses of laboratory tuberculosis data for the State Hygienic Laboratory, distribution of "Pierre the Pelican" pamphlets for the Bureau of Mental Hygiene, monthly list of closed suspects for the West Virginia Medical Center, and weekly morbidity reports on new venereal disease cases for the Division of Communicable Disease Control.

Other Services. All vital statistics data is completed, corrected, coded and tabulated by this division; this data is the basis for the preparation of statistical analyses and studies, both special and routine. Monthly and annual birth and death indices are prepared. A Physician's Register is now in preparation. Also, limited microfilm, photostat and notary service is provided by the division.

## STATE HYGIENIC LABORATORY

Public health laboratory service is an essential part of effective health work. The state Hygienic Laboratory renders essential correlating services to practically every public health and public or private medical care agency in the state. The following services are provided free of charge:

Diagnostic & Prognostic Laboratory Work. Specimen containers are loaned for sending specimens to the Laboratory. These containers are prepared so that the correct type of specimen for a given purpose can be collected and sent through the mails. The U. S. Post Offices will not accept contagious disease specimens unless they are in specially prepared containers which protect the people who handle mail.

The Laboratory supplies each county health department with the specimen mailing containers it uses. The county health officer, if he is paid for full-time work is expected to distribute these specimen mailing containers as needed by private physicians and other health agencies in his county who send specimens to the State Hygienic Laboratory.

Syphilis & Gonorrhea: Blood tests, as well as spinal fluid and other microscopic and chemical tests are performed. Quantitative blood and spinal fluid tests are routinely done for follow-up on treatment of patients; very little quantitative syphilis serology is done anywhere else in the state. These services are routinely used by public and private clinics; by industrial plants and coal companies which have signed an agreement with the State Health Department that they will carry out public health practices for their employees; by Selective Service, and practicing physicians. This work is also done in compliance with the West Virginia premarital and prenatal laws, for medically indigent persons, and for West Virginia residents contemplating marriage in other states which will not recognize the results of private laboratories.

Rabies: Animal heads are examined for the diagnosis of rabies. No other laboratory in the state makes this examination, which must be made for the protection of any person exposed to a possibly rabid animal.



Tuberculosis: For case-finding and follow-up examinations of tuberculous, specimens are examined including sputum, spinal fluid, urine and stomach washings. This laboratory is the only one in the state equipped to give complete laboratory examinations for tuberculosis, including the costly, time-consuming and dangerous processes of culture and animal inoculation.

Typhoid-Paratyphoid Fevers; Dysentery; Undulant Fever & Related Febrile Diseases: Examinations are made of stool, urine and blood specimens to establish diagnosis and to aid in the control of these diseases. State regulations require that a case of typhoid must be isolated until cultures of several stool and urine specimens collected at least a day apart show absence of typhoid germs. Regulations also require that a person who has ever had typhoid fever must have laboratory cultures showing that he is not still excreting the germs before he can be employed as a food-handler in a public eating place.

Diphtheria: Nose and throat cultures are examined to confirm this diagnosis and to determine when a case can be released from isolation. The law requires that a case be isolated until there are two cultures from the nose and throat each, showing the absence of diphtheria bacilli.

Intestinal and Other Parasitic Diseases: Stool specimens are examined for the presence of intestinal parasites, such as round worms, pin worms, tape worms, hookworms, amoebic dysentery and others.

Blood specimens are examined for malaria and other blood parasites.

Very little parasitology is done anywhere else in the state, although surveys in 1948 by the State Hygienic Laboratory show a deplorably high percent of parasitic disease. In one county over 50% of 600 grade-school children examined had worm diseases.

Other Diseases: Many other examinations are made regularly at the request of local health departments and practicing physicians, among which are laboratory examinations necessary to establish the diagnosis of pneumonia, infectious mononucleosis (glandular fever), whooping cough, rat-bite fever, and trench mouth. Bacteriological cultures and other examinations for such dangerous diseases as meningitis, typhus fever, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, tularemia and fungus diseases are also carried out; these services are not available elsewhere in the state because of the dangers involved.

Water, Milk & Restaurant Sanitation. Water specimens are examined to determine safety of drinking water supplies and public swimming pools. When submitted under proper conditions, examinations are made of city, town and community supplies, private, industrial and school supplies, state park and forest supplies, indoor and outdoor municipal swimming pools, and samples submitted by the State Water Commission in the control of stream pollution.

Examinations are made of milk samples taken from all producers and dairies supplying milk to or selling milk from Kanawha County. This is one basis upon which producers and dairies are graded. This work is restricted largely to supplies in or near Kanawha County because samples must be iced and must reach the laboratory within four hours after collection.

Rim count examinations of eating utensils used in public eating places are made for the Kanawha County area. As in the case of milk samples, the time factor limits the area served.

Biological Materials. The following biological supplies, for the prevention of disease, are provided free of charge, to county health officers for their own use and for distribution to private physicians who are assisting with approved free immunization programs:

Diphtheria-Tetanus Toxoid, A. P.

Immune Serum Globulin (for modification and treatment of measles)

Pertussis Vaccine (for prevention or modification of whooping cough)

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Vaccine (preventive only)

Smallpox Vaccine

Typhoid-Parathphoid Vaccine

Tuberculin (for use in connection with diagnosis of tuberculosis)

Silver nitrate ampoules (to protect eyes of new born from possible gonorrhoeal infection) is supplied free of charge to county health officers, and also as required by State law to private physicians, hospitals and midwives who assist in delivery at child-birth.



Rabies Vaccine, for prevention of rabies in humans exposed to this disease, is supplied to health officers and private physicians, at cost price of \$9.50 for one complete treatment of 14 daily doses.

Training & Evaluation. Approximately 100 private laboratories are evaluated annually for accuracy of performance of tests for syphilis. This is required by law. When poor performance is noted, technical workers in hospital and private laboratories who request this aid may come to the State Hygienic Laboratory for one or two weeks of expert training free of charge. Technical consultation and training are available to all private, city and county laboratories on proper procedures and methods for the diagnosis and prognosis of disease; training can be offered only to a limited number of applicants because of the very inadequate quarters occupied by the State Hygienic Laboratory. Consultation is also available to city and county laboratories on modern methods used in examination of milk and water supplies; again, training unfortunately has to be limited to a small number of persons, because of the Laboratory's inadequate quarters.

In cooperation with West Virginia University, practical training is provided, as a University requirement, to candidates for the degree of Bachelor of science in Medical Technology. Senior students spend from two to four months in the State Hygienic Laboratory, getting applied training for university credit in bacteriology, parasitology and serology.

## BUREAU OF COUNTY HEALTH WORK

There would be no public health practice if there were no "retail" outlets in the form of local health departments. The direct responsibility for health protection rests upon the official department of the local self-governing unit.

The state, also, has an important responsibility in the provision of local health services. The Bureau of County Health Work acts as a link between the local and state units. The development and expansion of local health services is a need which requires constant promotion. This bureau works with local Boards of Education, County Courts, and other community agencies and organizations for the purpose of organizing local health units.

Consultant and advisory services are available for the promotion of local health services and assistance is given local health officers in administration problems. Help is available for the preparation of local budgets with an attempt to obtain an equitable distribution of funds from local, state and federal funds.

The Bureau of County Health Work shares the responsibility for the procurement of professional personnel to man local health departments.



## BUREAU OF DENTAL HEALTH

The magnitude of the problem of dental health is almost overwhelming; dental defects are the most common of all human ailments with no other single disease having as great an incidence as dental caries. Public Health dentistry is preventive dentistry -- the prevention of defects, infection, eventual loss of teeth and any deviation from normal. The Bureau of Dental Health carries on the following activities:

Clinic Services. A limited treatment program is in operation and is provided on a demonstration basis only. Dentists, furnishing their services on a part-time basis, provide treatment in established clinics in Berkeley, Cabell, Kanawha, Marion, and Monongalia counties. Where such clinics are not in operation, three mobile dental clinics are available. Dental clinicians and dental hygienists are assigned to these units. Treatment services, offered only with the consent of the local practicing dentists, consists of examination and diagnosis, prophylaxis, restoration of carious teeth, pulp treatment, treatment of gingivitis and mouth infection, and extractions.

Education. Dental health education is carried on through various means. Printed materials are available such as pamphlets, charts and leaflets. Motion pictures on dental health are cooperatively maintained by this bureau and the Bureau of Public Health Education. Lectures and talks are presented to school groups, civic and community organizations, and other groups.

Demonstration Unit. Sponsored by the U. S. Public Health Service, a dental unit is under the supervision of this bureau for the purpose of demonstrating the value of the topical application of sodium fluoride. This service is given to school children for the prevention of decay. It is done on a community basis by request of the local dental society.

## BUREAU OF HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CARE

Total community health cannot be maintained without adequate hospital and medical care facilities. In an effort to assist the people of the state to secure better hospital facilities, the Bureau of Hospitals and Medical Care performs the following functions:

Hospital Construction. Prior to granting federal funds available under Public Law 725 for hospital and health center construction, a state plan was developed which incorporated a priority system based on the needs revealed by an inventory. This state plan is revised annually.

A representative of the bureau meets with community agencies and organizations interested in hospital construction, explaining the state plan and the federal aid available. Applications for federal aid in construction are received and approved. Construction schedules are prepared, hospital sites are inspected, and approved, and plans and specifications for construction are inspected and approved. Hospitals and health centers are inspected prior to certification of requests for periodic payments. The services of a construction engineer, a hospital consultant and an architect are available for these purposes. The bureau conducts an educational and informational program cooperatively with the Bureau of Public Health Education.

Hospital Licensure. The bureau maintains a current file of existing hospitals, nursing homes and related institutions (5 beds or more). Minimum standards have been adopted for hospital licensure. Upon payment of license fees, inspections are made before licenses are granted. The services of an architect, a hospital consultant, and a construction engineer are available for this work. The bureau carries on an educational program related to the construction of new facilities, the selection of equipment, procedures of operation, and hospital planning.



## BUREAU OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE

The significance of preventive health practice as a factor in industrial production did not come to full realization until recent years. Today, the broad concept of industrial hygiene includes all phases of public health practice together with the study and control of disease and disability directly related to employment in industry. The Bureau of Industrial Hygiene has two chief aims: (1) To prevent occupational disease through medical, engineering and chemical studies; and (2) to cooperate with other bureaus and divisions in their functions concerned with the industrial population and operations.

Engineering. Studies are made to evaluate the extent of occupational exposure to various poisonous materials in specific industrial plants, regardless of the nature of the operation. Studies are also made for the measurement of illumination, ventilation and humidity, noise, and radiation exposure such as X-ray and radium. Consultation is offered on engineering control of occupational health hazards.

Laboratory. The bureau maintains a chemical laboratory of industrial toxicology. Chemical analyses are made of various materials used in industrial processes together with quantitative measurements of these materials present in the workroom atmosphere. Analyses are made of biological materials, such as blood and urine, to determine the extent of inhalation absorption or ingestion of harmful materials. Also, a limited amount of work is done in the chemical analysis of food products to determine the presence of preservatives and adulterants.

Industrial Nursing. The consultant services of an industrial nurse are available to industrial nurses throughout the state and to industries. Assistance is given on problems of a general public health nature as well as those directly related to industrial health, such as the establishment and operation of dispensaries, nursing services and in-service training for nurses. Also, assistance is given industries in the recruitment of qualified nurses.

Other Services. A complete library of books, publications and reprints on industrial hygiene is maintained and is available for use by interested persons and agencies. Pamphlets and bulletins are prepared on various industrial health matters, such as first-aid, nursing, respirators, and specific occupational exposures for distribution to industry and labor.

A limited number of atmospheric pollution studies of urban areas are made at the request of local health units.



## BUREAU OF MENTAL HYGIENE

The public health aspect of mental health is continually becoming more significant. This broader viewpoint indicates that there are two distinct elements to be considered -- the prevention of mental disease and the promotion of mental health. The former element is related to the preventable causes or the amelioration of the results of mental disorder or deficiency. On the other hand, the promotion of mental health represents, in great part, those activities which help the individual to adjust to society and to help prevent failures in adjustment to community life. This, then indicates a service in the interests of the many normal people who at some time or other have some degree of emotional dysfunction and need assistance. Inaugurating a program of mental health, the Bureau of Mental Hygiene carries on the following activities:

Clinics. At present, there are three mental hygiene clinics in operation, one each in Martinsburg, Institute, and Charleston. Persons are referred to the clinics by practicing physicians, local health departments, juvenile courts, vocational guidance counselors, school teachers and nurses, churches, family service agencies, and other community agencies.

Each clinic is composed of a clinic team made up of a psychiatrist, psychologist and psychiatric social worker. Each has his or her own function, distinct yet directly inter-related with the work of the others. The psychiatrist is responsible for the treatment program and is the directing force in the clinic. The psychiatric social worker's task is to gain such understanding of the individual's social and developmental background that will give insight into the nature of the problem. The psychologist has psychometric and personality testing and other techniques that will give further insight into the individual in terms of such factors as personality and innate abilities. Both the psychologist and social worker give supportive treatment under the direction of the psychiatrist.

The clinics are equipped to handle emotional and behavior difficulties, the treatment of psychotic patients before and after institutional therapy, and the treatment of psychoneurosis. Also, diagnostic work is done in cases of organic brain diseases. Diagnosis and treatment of other mental and emotional problems are provided, depending upon the nature of the difficulty and the facilities at the disposal of the clinics.

Education and Training. As an intergral part of its mental hygiene program, this bureau cooperatively carries on educational activities. With the aid of the Bureau of Public Health Education, radio transcriptions are available for local broadcast and motion pictures are available for local use by any organization or group requesting them. "Pierre, the Pelican," a monthly mental health bulletin to parents, is distributed through the cooperation of the Division of Vital Statistics. The Bureau is presently active in the organization of a state mental hygiene association which will assist in the establishment of local societies. A new program, "Human Relations in the Classroom", is being initiated and the services of a consultant are available for training teachers in the use of this course.

Resident physicians and public health nurses spend one full day a week at the Charleston Clinic where orientation in psychology, the use of social agencies, and work with the psychiatrist is carried on.

Research. The amount of research is necessarily limited. At present, a research project being undertaken is concerned with testing non-institution children retarded with glutomic acid.



## BUREAU OF PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

Public health education has many aspects, diverse in character. Its primary goal is the improvement of health knowledge, attitudes and practices. This can be done only by working directly with people, indicating that the main "teachers" of health education include the local health officer, the public health nurse, the sanitarian, the local health educator, and the clerical staff. Thus, the Bureau of Public Health Education takes on the role of a "tool shop" or "supply depot", supplying services and materials. In assuming this role, the Bureau is presently engaged in the following activities.

Motion Pictures. A motion picture library is maintained consisting of a wide variety of over 100 health films. These films are available, free of charge, for use by health departments, schools, community organizations, civic clubs and any other group desiring their use. A catalogue of films is published and given statewide distribution. New motion pictures are continually previewed with the view of purchasing those suitable for the program in West Virginia.

Publications. A monthly newsletter (West Virginia Public Health News) is published monthly and distributed among interested agencies and persons in West Virginia and other states. Monthly news articles are written for the West Virginia State Medical Journal and occasional articles are written for other state periodicals. Also, occasional articles are written for national periodicals, such as the American Journal of Public Health, Survey Midmonthly, Channels, and others.

Radio. On request, radio talks are written on various public health topics. Radio recordings are produced for use by local radio stations. Also, transcriptions produced by national organizations are distributed for use by local radio stations. Radio work is time-consuming and is necessarily kept at a minimum because of this bureau's small staff.

Printed Material. Contact is maintained with organizations and agencies publishing printed material; such material is reviewed to determine its value in light of the needs in West Virginia. The lack of storage space prevents the maintenance of a large stock of such material. At present, an annotated catalogue of available materials is being compiled and, when completed, will be given wide distribution throughout the state.

Press Relations. News releases are prepared for the Charleston newspapers, the United Press and the Associated Press. Upon request, news articles are written for other local newspapers and for weekly papers.

Conferences and Committees. This bureau handles most of the arrangements for the Annual State Health Conference and the Northern and Southern District Health Conferences. Members of the staff actively participate in various committees and conferences, primarily those concerned with health, education, and social welfare.

Consultant Services. Upon request, consultative assistance is given other bureaus, divisions and local health departments regarding educational and public relations techniques and projects. This bureau plans and supervises the production of exhibits and sponsors them at various state and national meetings.



## BUREAU OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

The duties of the public health nurse permeate every phase of the modern public health program. With an effort to improve and maintain a strong public health nursing service for West Virginia, the Bureau of Public Health Nursing has the following functions:

Nursing Policies. In cooperation with the State Health Commissioner, bureau and division directors, and public health nurses, policies and procedures are established to be followed by the nurses in their local public health nursing activities.

Recruitment & Training. There is a tremendous need for more nursing service in the state and much emphasis is put on securing more nurses. The bureau maintains close contact with the nursing schools in the state as well as with the schools of public health nursing throughout the country. The services of the State Nurse's Association are utilized in the search for recruits, and in turn the Bureau of Public Health Nursing cooperates with the State Nurses Association in their recruitment program to interest qualified young women to enter desirable schools of nursing.

Nurses who lack public health training are given assistance in obtaining this training. This bureau makes the necessary arrangements with schools of public health nursing for the training of nurses whenever scholarships are available. Nurses, upon entering public health service in the state, are given supervised orientation to the program and its local operation. Also, in-service training is provided through institutes and conferences. Occasional short courses are offered on specialized aspects of the public health nursing program. A library of recommended reading material is maintained for use by local nurses and students.

Consultant Public Health Nursing Services. Assistance is given the local health officer and the staff nurses in planning the nursing program, keeping in mind a sound distribution of nursing time to meet community health problems and needs.

Consultant services are available to assist with the introduction of new nurses to the field of public health nursing, the development and use of volunteers in the local agency, the organization of health councils, the introduction of new policies and records, and in planning staff conferences which have an educational value. The consultants also visit local health departments or other local agencies to assist in the improvement of local services to the community.

With the cooperation of the Bureaus of Venereal Disease Control, Tuberculosis Control and Industrial Hygiene, consultant services are available with specific reference to the nursing services of each of these activities. Concerning tuberculosis and venereal disease control, emphasis is placed on case-finding clinic management, case holding and follow up, which includes rendering health service to the family as a group. In connection with the industrial hygiene program, emphasis is placed on desirable working relations between the industrial nurses, the employment of nurses by management, and consultant service to nurses in industry.

Materials and Supplies. With limitations, local public health nurses are provided with supplies needed to establish clinics and conferences, such as nursing bags, clinic equipment and teaching materials.



## BUREAU OF TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL

A communicable disease of particular importance, tuberculosis requires that every known means for its control be utilized. In its efforts to eventually eliminate tuberculosis as a hazard to health, the Bureau of Tuberculosis Control carries on a five-point program. This includes case-finding, clinic services, consultant services, the maintenance of a central case register, and the administration of the Hospitalization of the Needy Tuberculous fund.

Case-Finding. Cooperating with local communities, mass X-ray surveys are conducted by use of the bureau's mobile and portable X-ray units. During 1948, over 80,000 persons were given free chest X-ray through this program. Of this number, over 800 cases of active tuberculosis were found along with about 1,200 cases of silicosis, diseases of the heart, tumors of the lungs and other diseases of the chest.

Clinic Services. This bureau offers the services of technicians and X-ray equipment to any community that does not maintain clinic equipment locally. During 1948, forty counties received this service and over 2,300 persons had examinations in these clinics.

Consultant Services. A consultant nurse is employed to assist local public health nurses in planning and executing a tuberculosis control nursing program. In addition, X-ray technicians and record clerks make visits, on request, to help set up X-ray equipment and record systems.

Central Case Register. In the offices of the Bureau of Tuberculosis Control, records are kept on all reported cases of tuberculosis. Active cases are kept on a visible-type file and information on each case is brought up to date semi-annually. This system permits the bureau to coordinate and evaluate county tuberculosis control programs as well as to serve as a clearing house for information on individual cases.

Hospitalization of the Needy Tuberculous. This bureau is the administrator of the fund appropriated by the Legislature to pay one dollar per day for the hospitalization of tuberculous patients who are medically indigent. The Department of Public Assistance cooperates in this program by evaluating family resources. Final review of each case is made by this bureau with disposition made on the basis of the standards formulated by the Public Health Council. This fund is sufficient to pay one dollar per day for about 65 per cent of all admissions to the state tuberculosis hospitals.



## BUREAU OF VENEREAL DISEASE CONTROL

Two significant factors have strongly influenced the conduct of venereal disease programs. First, there is no measure practicable for insuring avoidance of contact and no vaccine capable of transforming susceptibles into immunes; thus, the attack must be designed to eliminate the individual foci. Secondly, the moral and social factors enter the picture more so than with any other communicable disease. In carrying out the public health measures of the venereal disease control program, the Bureau of Venereal Disease Control pursues the following activities.

Consultant Services. The bureau assists local case-finding programs by studying the techniques used and offering help in the improvement of the program. Local communities are given assistance in the establishment and operation of clinics. Upon request, practicing physicians are given consultant services concerning the diagnosis and treatment of the venereal diseases. Also, assistance is available in the use of educational techniques for the control of the venereal diseases. A consultant nurse is available to assist local public health nurses provide nursing services in relation to the control program.

Reporting and Recording. A central register of all known cases of gonorrhea and syphilis is maintained in the central office. Cases in this register are reported by practicing physicians and the health officers.

Drugs. Excepting penicillin, drugs are furnished to local health departments for distribution among practicing physicians.

Education. Literature on the venereal disease is maintained and distributed among local health departments and other agencies and organizations requesting material. Arrangements are made for radio broadcasts concerning venereal disease control. A file of source material is maintained and speakers are available for group meetings.

West Virginia Medical Center. This treatment center is maintained in South Charleston. Patients referred to the center by practicing physicians, clinics and health departments are given diagnostic services and/or treatment. When necessary, post-treatment observation is carried on at the center.



STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Directory

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Division of Communicable Disease Control -- Charles L. A. Wehr, M. D., (Acting)

Division of Maternal & Child Health -- Hallie Isabel Morgan, M. D.

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Bureau of Public Health Education -- William H. Rost, M. P. H.

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Bureau of Tuberculosis Control -- Charles L. A. Wehr, M. D. (Acting)

Bureau of Venereal Disease Control -- T. E. Hynson, M. D. (Acting)





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